

July 2011 General Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Arizona Submarine Veterans Perch Base was convened at Dillon's Restaurant at Arrowhead, in Glendale, AZ at 1215 hours, 9 July 2011. The meeting was called to order by Jim Denzien, Base Commander.

The "Call to Order" was followed by a prayer of invocation by Walt Blomgren, the Pledge of Allegiance and the Reciting of our Creed. The tolling ceremony was conducted for all boats lost in the month of July and a moment of silence was observed for our shipmates on eternal patrol.

The minutes from the June 2011 regular meeting needed to be approved as published in the "Mid Watch" monthly newsletter. A motion was made and seconded. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

Bob Warner reported on the base's financial status as of 31 May 2011. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Jim Denzien introduced the guests present at today's meeting:

Tim Gregory – Will be joining Perch Base
Thomas Farley – Will be joining Perch Base

According to the Sailing List there were 32 members and guests present. The complete sailing list included:

Jim Denzien	Howard Doyle	Chuck Emmett	Bob Warner
Rick Simmons	Walt Blomgren	Richard Kunze	John Schlag
DeWayne Lober	Herb Coulter	Jerry Pittman	Bill Tippet
Rick Baxter	Jack Kimball	Robb Roberts	Peter Tardiff
Don DeMarte	Davy Jones	Ed Hawkins	Richard Bernier
Dan Moss	Mary Denzien	Ron Dutcher	Tom Clonts
Theodore W Hunt	Joe Varese	Tim Gregory	Steven Stanger
Jim Velson	Thomas Farley	Heather Diaz	Gary Slick

Base Commander's Board of Directors Meeting Report

Kap(SS)4Kid(SS) – Phoenix Children's Hospital, We are looking at a date in August for our next visit. At this time we do not have a confirmed date, Joe Varese, our event Coordinator is coordinating with them to establish a date. We expect it to be in August.

Jim then discussed the E-Mail sent and the rumors that followed the Memorial Day Ceremony at the National Cemetery. Jim stated that he would like to try to answer all of the questions members may have in regard to this and finish these discussions. As the officers of the base we feel that there are two events each year that the base should support to the fullest extent possible. The Memorial Day

Ceremony, at the National Cemetery and Veterans Day. The intent of the E-Mail was to ask and determine what we as officers of the Base could do to help the members attend the events which the Base precipitates.

Veterans Day November 11, 2011 - We have parades in Phoenix which we know is Nov. 11th, Mesa, Anthem, Black Canyon City and Gilbert. We don't have a lot of information yet but will get it out as it becomes available.

Fund Raising – Turvus Tumblers, You may have seen these in stores. They are plastic tumblers. Jim showed the 24oz & 12oz sizes and stated that our base patch could be placed inside of the larger one. The smaller one with the South Florida Base patch inside was passed around. We are looking to obtaining them and selling them through our Store Keeper and at some of the events that we have.

Save our Sail – Jim made a presentation of how he would like to proceed. Though not a direct function of Perch Base, the membership of the Board of Directors come from the Base. Jim stated that he will be getting with Dan Moss and his wife, Layne, who will act as co-chairs for the foundation. They will be adding other members and having a Board meeting soon to structure and get things moving forward. Jim introduced Tom Clonts an associate member of our base and former member of the Phoenix Commission, which was involved in making the attempt to obtain the Sail of the Phoenix and get it here. We also have several other members that are former Phoenix Commission Members.

Jim mentioned the food service here, which we have made changes and attempted to make it as seamless as possible so that everyone can eat and we can conduct business. Also don't forget to pay your bill.

USSVI National Convention – Springfield, Missouri – September 5th – 11th it is being put on by Ozark Runner Base. Jim received an E-mail from a member of Gudgeon Base offering a car pool ride if any one is interested contact Jim to get the phone number.

Jim then discussed the forthcoming Base Survey. Again this is not an attempt to invade anyone's privacy. As the Bases Board of Directors we would like to know what skill sets exist within the base. Are you a welder, are you very computer literate etc. It is not completed yet but will becoming out as Flash Traffic and in the News Letter. Please get this back to us, Chuck will be pulling this together. It will be an E-Mail response no stamp required.

Float Maintenance – Currently we are in a down period, the float will be 3 years old in November, and it is starting to show wear. Any one interested in helping let Jim know. It was mentioned that the brakes sometimes lock-up. There is no date as yet, we won't get it all done in one day there will probably be a window.

Letter to Michael Bircumshaw, National Commander – Following the retirement of Jerry Pittman when we learned that to the man the Command Master Chief's were all under the impression that personal had to be either retired or discharged to join USSVI. This is not true; the only requirement is that they are qualified in Submarines. Michael called Jim this week to inform him that the National organization is aware of that misunderstanding. They are looking into ways and means the make people aware. They not yet done anything but it is now a topic of their discussions.

Base Officers and Board of Directors Reports

Vice Commander – Howard Doyle shared experience from recent family trip which included a trip to National Submarine Museum at Groton. He stated that they had done an excellent job including everything from the Holland to the latest boats of today. He highly recommended that if you are in the area go there and take a look at it.

Secretary – John Schlag had nothing to report.

Treasurer – Bob Warner reported on the base's financial status as of 31 May 2011. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Membership Chairman – Rick Simmons reminded everyone that once your membership is in to get on the USSVI Website, get a password, check your profile ensure it is accurate, up to date. You can make changes; they will notify us of changes you make. It is a good place to look for other people, there is a search feature.

Chief of the Boat – Richard Kunze had nothing to report.

Communications Officer – Chuck Emmett stated that he had copies of the latest News Letter with him. Also that he toyed with the idea of putting Flash Traffic on the News Letter but dismissed it. Copies of all of both are available electronically.

Chaplain – Walt Blomgren reported that we had no one on the Binnacle list.

Event Coordinator – Joe Varese stated that everything has already been mentioned.

Base Storekeeper – DeWayne Lober announced that once again he had "Shirts, Decals, Cups and Base patches.

Old Business

Frontier Days Parade & Rodeo, Prescott, Arizona – July 2nd, the event was well attended, the weather was good and it was fun for all that attended.

Kap(SS)4Kid(SS) - Once again as soon as we get information we will publish it as Flash Traffic.

Float Maintenance – We will also notify you by Flash Traffic as plans develop. It only gets to those that are on the E-Mail list, but we can only work with what we've got.

New Business

Annual Perch Base Awards Dinner – January 28th, 2012 we have opted to have it here at Dillons. Happy Hour will be at 5PM with dinner to follow. If anyone has suggestions for a guest speaker, they are welcomed.

The Base Survey will be coming out, again not to invade anyone's privacy, to give us a little more information regarding the skill sets available within our membership.

The election of District Commanders started July 1st. We are part of Western District 1; Jack Messersmith is currently our District Commander. Jack is currently the only candidate running; Chuck will send a Flash Traffic for you to vote. There will be a space for a write-in candidate, be sure that they agree to serve as District Commander. Jim will forward the results to Jim Dunn, our Regional Director. So send these back by the end of July.

Good of the Order

Binnacle list - Walt has already stated that no one is on the binnacle list.

Don DeMarte reported that the past Commander of American Legion Carol Hamberger had passed away; she had been a great supporter of the submarine group and a tremendous lady. Also the widow of the artist that painted the USS Batfish had received a letter from Perch Base thanking her

There was discussion of how to obtain a ride to an event if needed, Let Howard, Jim Denizen or Rick Simmons know and we'll make the connection happen.

There was a question of supporting Charities Ronald McDonald House was brought up. Howard stated that we have tried to maintain charities we are associated with the Navy and the Submarine Service, For several years at Christmas we have sent money to San Diego to The Command Master Chief for the Boats that are in port for the enlisted men that are having trouble, Food boxes and thing like that.

The Base received from Don DeMarte a painting of the USS BATFISH donated by the artist's wife and the Daisy Mountain Veterans Association which will be mounted and displayed here at Dillions.

Presentation on the Classes of Submarines

Chuck Emmitt stated that this information is on our web site, He proceeded with a slide presentation. A very comprehensive listing of all classes of submarines from the first, USS Alligator, followed by the first true submarine the USS Holland with an internal combustion engine, electric motor, torpedo tube and deck gun. Chuck continued through all Classes of Submarines to the latest Virginia Class. The presentation was well received by all base members present.

50/50 Drawing

COB, Richard conducted the 50/50 drawing. It was won by Jim Denzien, Total \$103 = \$51.50

Adjournment

The benediction was offered by Walt Blomgren.

All outstanding business having been concluded, it was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote and the meeting was adjourned.

John Schlag

Secretary, Perch Base USSVI